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REMARKS

This application pertains to novel self-adhesive mouldings (page 17, lines 1-15; claim 1). The mouldings are produced in various ways, such as by injection molding, compression molding, blow molding and the like. The moldings are three-dimensional articles of manufacture, such as pads, heart-shaped molds and the like, which are self-adhesive.

Although comprised of pressure-sensitive adhesive materials, the inventive articles are mouldings, not self-adhesive coatings.

Claims 1-5, 7 and 8 are pending.

Claims 1-5, 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Everaerts et al, WO 00/39233 and in view of Remmers et al, U.S. 6,430,898. The Examiner contends that the product that Everaerts forms by placing an adhesive between two substrates to form a layer anticipates or suggests Applicants' product even though not formed by the injection molding etc. methods recited in Applicants' claims. This because, according to the Examiner, Applicants' claims do not specify particular forms or dimensions, and therefore read on the product of other forms of "molding". Alternatively, the Examiner turns to the "bricks" formed by Remmers at col. 3, lines 40-45.

Applicants' claims are directed to specific products, namely injection molded, compression molded, blow molded or retro molded products. Those skilled in the art understand that, because of the nature of such molds and the processes by which products are made in such molds, the resulting products can have specific shapes not obtainable by simple compression between two substrates (as in Everaerts) or simply pouring into an open mold (as in Remmers). Injection molding, for example, generally involves a mold cavity having specific contours, shapes, indentations, projections, etc. into which the substance to be molded is injected, usually under elevated temperature and pressure, and then cured to form a very specific shape. Those skilled in the art understand that such products are distinctly different than those of Everaerts and Remmers because the resulting shaped features cannot be produced by Everaerts or Remmers.

Referring again to injection molding as an example, very fine contours and projections can be accurately produced by forcing the substance to be molded into the corresponding indentations etc. under high pressure. Therefore products can be produced which can be accurately matched to complementary shaped portions of other articles, such as the molded products used to seal windshields into place in automobiles, or the rubber seals used on automobile doors, trunks and the like. Applicants' products are therefore generally characterized by very fine and specific details that cannot be obtained in the Everaerts/Remmers products.

The injection molded, compression molded, blow molded and retro molded products recited in Applicants' claims are therefore neither anticipated nor suggested by the "layer" produced by Everaerts or the "brick" produced by Remmers.

The rejection of claims 1-5, 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Everaerts et al, WO 00/39233 and in view of Remmers et al, U.S. 6,430,898 should now be withdrawn.

In view of the present remarks it is believed that claims 1-5, 7 and 8 are now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of said claims by the Examiner is respectfully requested and the allowance thereof is courteously solicited.

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If any extension of time for this response is required, Appellants request that this be considered a petition therefor. Please charge the required petition fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fee or credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

Respectfully submitted,  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile, no (571) 273-8300 to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 18, 2006.

  
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